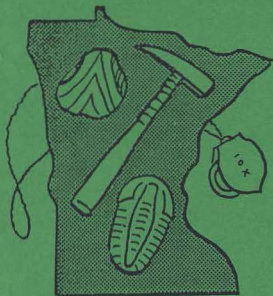


SPRING 1992

Geological Society  
of Minnesota

# NEWS



*Geological Society of Minnesota*



FIRST CLASS

EDITOR:

J. Allen Cox  
1842 26th Ave NW  
New Brighton, MN 55112

PLEASE FORWARD



## Geological Society of Minnesota

1711 Marshall Avenue, Saint Paul, MN 55104

### OFFICERS:

Pres. Dwight Robinson  
V.Pres. Judy Hamilton  
Sec'y Dorothy Kuether  
Treas. Sylvia Huppler

### DIRECTORS:

Allen Cox  
Tom Lonsky  
Conrad Nelson  
Galen O'Connor  
Dee Schmalz

### NEWSLETTER

Spring 1992

### From the Prez

So 50% of our urban wetlands have been eliminated and the remainder are essentially dysfunctional. And in 1926 our rivers had to be declared public nuisances! Then there was the creosote plant in St. Louis Park built right over the long forgotten deep well of a long gone laundry. From creosote to Dieke Bentonite, our tour of urban geology this past lecture season has provided a fascinating glimpse into the consequences of mixing rocks, water, and people. Maybe we should have entitled the series "Life on the Rocks."

In a fitting close to the 1991-92 lecture series, Dr. Dean Abrahamson of the Hubert H. Humphrey Institute of Public Affairs gave us the low down on global warming including the truth about methane (we can't really blame it all on cows). The willy nilly dispatch of fossil fuels, deforestation, and poorly conceived energy policies are all littering the primrose lane. He did offer a ray of hope: energy efficient fluorescent lighting. The figures were impressive. If you leave an incandescent-style lamp on more than 45 minutes a day, you can save big by going fluorescent despite a hefty initial investment.

For GSMers interested in the figures, Dr. Abrahamson sent me his info packet on energy efficient lighting which I promised to make available as a public service to our members. To avoid wasting energy, I suggest you look them over first to decide whether you want

your own copies. We will discuss distribution and costs at the next board meeting.

For the 1992-93 season, we will again be peering more comfortably farther "back" in time as we visit each of the 12 geological periods of the Phanerozoic. Was life really simpler in the good old days? If only trilobites could talk. Life has probably never been easy, not even for stromatolites, but GSM's terrific lecture series provides one of the easiest ways to learn about the life and times of bygone eras.

Kudos to our program committee for a great series last season. Dick Uthe deserves special thanks for all his planning, follow-up, and AV support.

See you in the great "Show Me" State June 15th. If you can't make that one, mark your calendars now for the other exciting field trips planned for this summer.

Dwight Robinson, President GSM

### In Memoriam

Ethel Shimek, long time GSM member and former editor of the newsletter, died September 24, 1991 at age 85. She had been in frail health and succumbed quickly and peacefully to pneumonia.

**GEOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF MINNESOTA  
FIELD TRIPS - SUMMER 1992**

**June 15 - 26**

*Geology of the Ozark dome of S.E. Missouri.*

Leaders: Dick Uthe & Mary Kimball

Twelve days

Trip is designed so you can enter or leave at any time.

For more information call Mary Kimball - 644-6429

Second pre-trip meeting:

Alex & Marlys Lowe's House

May 9, 7:30 p.m.

**July 25 - 26**

*Southeast Minnesota*

Leader: Calvin Alexander

Two days

Cal will take us through the Karst country - caves, outcrops.

**August 15**

*Cedar Creek*

Leader: Dave Grigal, U of M, Soils

One day

Cedar Creek is 35 miles north of Twin Cities at E. Bethel.

Dave will talk on interrelationships between soils and vegetation.

**September 12 - 13**

*Virginia/Eveleth Area - Laurentien Divide*

Leader: James Welsh, Dept. of Geology, Gustavus

Adolphus College, St. Peter

Two days

This area is on the iron range.

**Note:** Prior to each weekend trip, further information will be mailed to all members . If you are not a member, you will not receive a mailing.

For more information call:

Eva Selander - 729-2130 or

Paul Lemke - 292-8661

## ACCOMMODATIONS

The following information relates to the two-day field trips and is given only as a convenience to members. Members should make their own reservations.

### Southeast Minnesota Trip July 25-26

#### Motels in Rochester

#### Prices

Days Inn Downtown  
6 first Ave NW  
Phone: 507 282 3801

\$43.00 + tx	Single
\$49.00 + tx	Double

Fiksdahl Motel  
1215 2nd St. SW  
Phone: 507 288 2671

\$39.95 + tx	Single
\$43.95 + tx	Double

Super 8 Motel South  
1850 S. Bdwy  
Phone: 507 282 9905

\$35.88 + tx	Single
\$42.88 + tx	Double

Campground  
Mac's Park Place  
Phone: 507 843 6500  
15 miles from town;  
get directions from campground when making reservations

\$11.00 per camp unit

### Virginia/Eveleth Area Field Trip Sept. 12-13

#### Motels in Virginia, MN

Lakeshor Motor Inn  
Phone: 218 741 3360

\$29.00 + tx	Single
\$34.00 + tx	Double

Ski-View Motel  
Phone: 218 741 8918

\$26.00 + tx	Single
\$30.00 + tx	Double

Campground  
Pfeiffer Lake  
Phone: 218 741 5736

\$5.00 per family

## Membership

The 1992 roster of GSM members is back from the printer and available for distribution to members. Thanks to the marvels of laser printers and computer desktop publishing software in the hands of Warren Mitchell, the roster has a crisper and more appealing look to it this year. Copies were distributed at the Spring Banquet and will be available at both the Annual Fall Meeting and the lectures.

We have several recent members who are not listed in the roster:

DOCHERTY, Diane  
3104 Holmes Ave. S.  
Minneapolis MN 55408  
825-6778

HOWARD, Charles & Dorothy  
2409 W. 52nd St.  
Minneapolis MN 55410  
922-1806

MAHAR, Cathie  
48 Oliver Ave. S.  
Minneapolis MN 55405  
377-2133

MILLER, Caroline & Wilmer  
2732 W. River Parkway  
Minneapolis MN 55406  
724-3210

THOMAS, Margaret  
1606 W. Skillman Ave.  
Roseville MN 55113  
633-4571

WILSON, Martha  
2053 Dayton Ave.  
St. Paul MN 55104  
646-4316

## GSM FIELD TRIP TO SOUTHEASTERN MISSOURI

15 JUNE 92 through 26 JUNE 92

Ancient Precambrian exploding volcanoes and collapsing calderas, Cambrian algal reefs which later served as hosts for the world-class Mississippi Valley-Type lead ore deposits, huge springs, caves, and collapsed cavern systems, bayou-like swamps in valleys abandoned by the Mississippi River during Pleistocene glacial meltwater surges, Karst sinkholes housing iron ores mined since the Civil War -- all of these are found in and near a small area of the northeastern Ozarks called the Saint Francois Mountains.

Dick Uthe and Mary Kimball will host GSM's two-week field trip to study the geology of this part of the southern mid-continent from Monday, 15 Jun 92, through Friday, 26 Jun 92. Participants may enter or leave the trip at any time. Transportation is by private automobiles of participants, who may camp or stay at motels. Car-pooling is encouraged. Costs include a field trip guide (approx. \$18) and cave and mine entrance fees (approx. \$10). Participants are responsible for arranging their own transportation, food, and lodging. A directory of suggested accommodations will be distributed. Non-members must pay an additional \$5 fee. There are no other official costs.

## CONFERENCE ANNOUNCEMENT

10th INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE  
OF BASEMENT TECTONICS  
August 3 - 7, 1992  
Duluth, MN

Field trips will be conducted before and after the conference. For information, contact Dr. Richard Ojakangas, Department of Geology, University of Minnesota-Duluth, Duluth, MN 55812-2496. Telephone 218/726-7238 or fax 218/726-6360.

PRELIMINARY ANNOUNCEMENT  
GSM 1992 - 1993 LECTURE PROGRAM

PHANEROZOIC EON -- THE LAST 600 MILLION YEARS

DATE	TOPIC
28 Sep 92	Annual Fall Meeting
5 Oct 92	Cambrian Period
19 Oct 92	Ordovician Period
2 Nov 92	Silurian Period
16 Nov 92	Devonian Period
30 Nov 92	Mississippian Period
4 Jan 93	Pennsylvanian Period
11 Jan 93	Lab
25 Jan 93	Permian Period
8 Feb 93	Triassic Period
22 Feb 93	Jurassic Period
8 Mar 93	Cretaceous Period
22 Mar 93	Tertiary Period
5 Apr 93	Quaternary Period
26 Apr 93	Spring Banquet

Each lecture will cover the major geologic events of the period including mountain building and plate tectonics (location of the continents), the general climatic conditions, and the evolution and extinction of major life forms. A final schedule will be issued with the next newsletter.

Minnesota Archaeological Society Announcement

The following information was received by Rod Johnson, President of the Minnesota Archaeological Society, with the request that it be passed on to GSM members.

The Minnesota Archaeological Society meets the first Thursday of each month at Giddens Center on the Hamline University campus. The center is located on the southeast corner of Snelling Ave and Hewitt Ave in St. Paul. Meetings commence with a social time at 7:30 PM, followed by a program at 8:00 PM. Professional archaeologists are featured as speakers. Membership benefits include

- o a monthly newsletter
- o opportunities for field trips to archaeological sites, both in-state and out-state
- o a bi-annual publication, "The Minnesota Archaeologist."

Memberships are: Individual - \$20.00; Family - \$30.00; Full-Time Student or Senior Citizen - \$15.00.

Further information can be obtained by writing:

Minnesota Archaeological Society  
Fort Snelling History Center  
St. Paul, MN 55111